



Welcome

Welcome to the assembly of the church of Christ that meets at Georgia Avenue, where we strive to follow God's plan for the New Testament church as closely as possible. Thank you for coming. We are encouraged by your presence and invite you to search the scriptures with us.

Sermon Text & Title

AM: "God's School of Grace"

Titus 2:11-13

PM: "The Benefits of Hearing the Law"

Deut. 31:9-13

Schedule of Services

<i>Bible Study</i>	9 AM
<i>Sun AM Worship</i>	10 AM
<i>Sun PM Worship</i>	5 PM
<i>Wed Bible Class</i>	7 PM

Gene Cooper
Minister
703.380.6008 (c)

Melvin Otey
Asst. Minister
202.345.4528 (c)

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK:

TO JUDGE OR NOT TO JUDGE—YOU BE THE JUDGE

Matthew 7:1-6 is one of the most used and often abused passages in the Bible. Using this passage as a pretext, it is often said, "It is wrong to judge under any circumstances." But what does this passage and others like it really teach? Can the child of God judge another child of God without disobeying the scriptures?

Matthew 7:15 says that we are to "beware of false prophets" and we are told to know (judge) them "by their fruits" Matt 7:20. Later in Romans 16:17, the apostle Paul instructs us to "mark those who cause divisions and occasions of stumbling, contrary to the doctrine which we have learned: and turn away from them." Such obviously requires some form of judging. What then is the case?

Jesus condemns critical judgment: Never at any time, is it proper for a Christian to be quick to criticize another brother without first considering their own motives. Regardless of what another has done, we are not to exhibit a spirit of harsh condemnation. Those who display this type of hyper-critical judging can expect the same kind of condemnation for themselves, "for with what measure you use, it will be measured back to you." That is to say, we need to be careful when we judge others especially when we are guilty of the same things, or of some other sin that is just as damning as the one we condemn our brother for.

Jesus had this type of judgment in mind when he urged that we "first cast the beam out of our own eye." Before we are qualified to engage in helpful judging, we must take part in self-correction. We do not have to attain perfection before we can help others, but the nearer we are to perfection the more likely we are to "judge righteously" John 7:24.

Jesus sanctions helpful judging: While we are not to be harsh and critical of others, we can and should help each other. Galatians 6:1, for instance says, "If a man is overtaken in a fault, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of meekness considering yourselves lest you also be tempted." Additionally, we are instructed by Paul in 2 Thes. 3:14-15, "If any man does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person, and do not keep company with him, that he might be ashamed. Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother."

Before we judge another, it would be wise and prudent to understand the words of Jesus recorded at Matthew 18:15-20. This, by the way, is the only way we should deal with our brother.

We can, and often we do, twist the scriptures so that they will teach otherwise, but such is neither Biblical nor loving and we do so at the expense of our own souls, 2 Pet 3:16. Remember ours is a ministry of spiritual restoration, not carnal defamation.

Bro. Gene Cooper

If God be for us, who could be against us...

“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD”

TRANSLATIONS OF THE BIBLE—THE NLT

#20 The New Living Translation (NLT), a revision of the Living Bible (1971), was produced by a team of approximately ninety scholars in 1996 and revised in 2004. It follows the dynamic equivalence, thought-for-thought method of “translation.” According to the translators, their challenge was “to create a text that would make the same impact in the life of modern readers that the original text had for the original readers.” The end result, as with all thought-for-thought “translations,” is that the NLT is not a translation of God’s word at all. It is a paraphrase that renders in English what the translators think the original authors said. While it is easy to read, the student of the Bible must remember when reading the NLT that he or she is not actually reading what the inspired writers said.

Bro. Melvin Otey

Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Women of the Word” Bible Studies POSTPONED ‘til April. Stay tuned for more info.

“Fishers of Men,” Thur, 2/28, 7PM. “Conducting the Home Bible Study.”

Women’s Min. Prayer Circle, “Pray Without Ceasing,” Sat, 3/2, 10:30AM. at the Otey home. Ladies, let’s grow together by praying with and for one another.

Life Lines Ministry Meeting, Tues, 3/4/08, 7PM. See Bro. A. Johnson for more info.

College Min. Fellowship, Fri, 3/7/08, 7PM. See the Merriweathers for more info.

6th Annual Youth Conf. on Abstinence, Sat, 03/08, 10AM-3PM. @ PG Co. coC. Bro. Williams will take some of our youth to this conference. Parents, this should be very helpful. Please see Maurice **today** to arrange your child’s participation.

“Marriage, Divorce & Re-Marriage” Class, Wed, 03/12 & 03/19.

PRAYER REQUESTS

WORSHIP LINE-UP

AM

Usher	C. Merriweather
Song Leader	K. Wall
Announcements	M. Otey
Invocation	I. Thompson
Scrip Reading	I. Thompson
Message	G. Cooper
Lord’s Table	O. Eaton
Assist	T. Porter

D. Rogers

Giving O. Eaton

Benediction M. Davis

PM

Usher	C. Merriweather
Song Leader	S. Pierre
Announcements	G. Cooper
Invocation	K. Wall
Scrip Reading	K. Wall
Message	M. Otey
Lord’s Table	C. Bingham
Assist	I. Thompson
	L. Clemons
Giving	C. Bingham
Benediction	W. Ford

God’s Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel. Rom 10:17
Believe in Jesus. John 8:24; Heb. 11:6
Repent of Sin. Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
Confess Christ. Rom. 10:9-10
Be Baptized. Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38
The Lord adds you to the church.
 Acts 2:47
Live Faithful Unto Death. Rev. 2:10

STATISTICS

February 17, 2008

Sunday Class: 35 AM Worship: 57 PM Worship: 45 Wed Class: 34

Clean Up This Month:

M. Moore, A. Crump & S. Johns

Communion:

D. Davis & S. Merriweather